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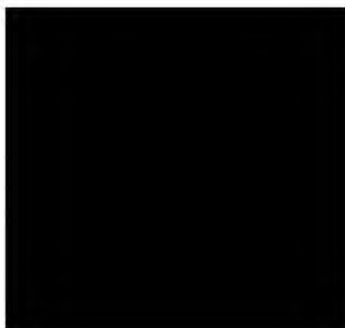
21 September 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Seminar on the Role of ADP in the Cartography Division,
OBGI, 14-15 September 1967

PRESENT:

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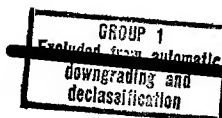
OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the meeting was to review in detail the status and future potential of ADP in the Cartography Division. At the very outset, it was stated that free and full discussion was to be encouraged so that problems could be identified and solutions found, where possible. It was hoped that out of these discussions Chief, Cartography Division, could better plan the future role of ADP and the resulting staffing pattern.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. It was fully agreed that the current application of ADP in the Division is on a solid basis. It was strongly recommended by all that it should be continued and that the improvement of the data bases for the production of special projection maps should be pushed. It was further noted that the current projects are legitimate requests on the Cartography Division and should be honored as part of its supporting role in the Agency.

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2. The obvious next step in applying ADP methods appears to be the incorporation of the base map program. There was not full agreement that at the present time enough information was available to assure the cost effectiveness of putting the base maps into the data bank. The problem centers around the choice between putting onto tape the digital information for individual countries, as units, and the more ambitious program of fitting these data into a world-wide or regional common scale bases. The second choice is particularly troublesome in our base map program because of the wide range of scales required for the various countries in the world. It was agreed that instead of making a firm commitment at this time, pilot studies should be continued and pushed through to completion as soon as possible. Israel, at 1:250,000, is currently underway and should be pushed as rapidly as possible. Another proposal was to scan the existing color separation plates of a base map and store the digital data on tape.

3. It was recommended that further investigation be made toward the view of incorporating into the current gross data file tapes of information that would prove particularly useful in compilation, such as geographic names, airfields, population statistics, administrative boundary information, etc.

4. After a rather thorough discussion, it was agreed that the ADP activity in the division should be located on the technical side of production, namely, CD/T. It should consist of a unit comparable to a section within the branch. It was agreed that the Special Assistant for ADP in the division be located in the Office of the Chief, and at a grade level comparable to a branch chief. It was noted that the current ADP effort is understaffed, requiring an overuse of overtime. Details of a proposed staffing pattern, prepared by [REDACTED], are attached.

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5. There is an unclear picture as to whether CD/BGI personnel or OCS personnel will be responsible for running the new plotter when cartographic projects are being performed. It was suggested that this is a critical decision that needs to be made, and that a discussion with OCS personnel should be initiated by the Office of the Director.

6. There is full agreement that a follow-up meeting of this type should be called as soon as results from several pilot studies are available.

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[REDACTED]
Deputy Director
Basic and Geographic Intelligence

Attachment
As stated

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Distribution: 1 ea. attendees
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